



# Illinois Conservation Police Bi-Weekly Report



*Vision Statement: As vigilant guardians we will protect the citizens and natural resources of Illinois.*

**DATE: November 15, 2016**

(Weeks of October 29 to November 13, 2016)

*This report represents some events the OLE handled over the last couple of weeks;  
however, it does not include all actions taken by the Office of Law Enforcement.*

## ADDENDUM: November 21, 2016

### COOK COUNTY

CPO Macias was conducting snagging enforcement in Belmont Harbor and came across three subjects fishing. CPO Macias made contact with the subjects, one was a police officer, and the second ran away from the area and left his snag pole, the third was wanted on an arrest warrant. CPO Macias confiscated 2 snag poles, several salmon, arrested the subject, and issued 2 citations.

CPO Macias went to a well-known trout lake in the Lansing area of Cook County (Green Lake) and as he was checking the various people fishing he came across a person who was adamant that since he was from out of town he did not need a fishing license. He had a trout on a stringer and kept telling CPO Macias he was ignorant in Illinois fishing laws. CPO Macias retrieved a 2016 fishing digest from his truck as well as his citation/warning book. CPO Macias issued a citation for not having a non-resident license, a warning for not having an inland trout stamp and he released the trout back into the waters of Green Lake.

CPO Macias was called out to William Powers State Park to retrieve a dead deer that was found by the site technicians. It was found with what seemed like a gunshot to the body in a body of water. CPO Macias removed the body from the standing water and put it deep inside the wooded area of the park; an investigation is pending.

CPO Macias was patrolling Tampier Lake in southwest Cook County and found 2 individuals with several trout, no license, no stamps, and they were trying to depart the area before the CPO could make contact. CPO Macias managed to block their exit from the parking lot and made contact while inside their car. Two citations and several written warnings were issued.

CPO Macias was checking people fishing at William Powers State Park when he saw two individuals fishing and made contact. They were both non-residents and had no licenses for fishing, a citation and a written warning was issued.

CPO Macias received an anonymous call from someone claiming they had a neighbor who was trapping hawks. When the CPO went to check the yard of the individual CPO Macias did indeed see a Swedish Goshawk Trap set with a pigeon as bait inside. CPO Macias tried many times to make contact with someone at the house but could not find anyone there. CPO Macias finally got a name of the homeowner and checked the falconer's database; she was not listed as a

falconer. CPO Macias finally made contact weeks later and the owner did not have a falconer's license and had admitted to trapping furbearers. The trap was seized and a citation issued.

CPO Whitchurch was on patrol at Lake Michigan when he observed a group of four subjects salmon fishing. CPO Whitchurch contacted all four subjects and requested fishing licenses and salmon stamps from the subjects. The subjects informed CPO Whitchurch they were only 15 years old and did not need licenses. CPO Whitchurch could tell by looking at the subjects they were older than 15. CPO Whitchurch asked for their birthdates at which time none of the subjects responded right away and then, after a pause, gave birthdates that put all of the four subjects in need of fishing licenses to lawfully fish. All four subjects were cited for not having fishing licenses and issued warnings for not having salmon stamps.

CPO Whitchurch was on patrol in the South side of Chicago during nighttime hours when a vehicle passed CPO Whitchurch's patrol vehicle at a high rate of speed. CPO Whitchurch clocked the vehicle driving 50 miles per hour in a posted 30 MPH zone. After the vehicle passed CPO Whitchurch, the vehicle disobeyed two traffic control devices and went through two red lights at back to back intersections. CPO Whitchurch conducted a stop on the vehicle and observed a very young child sitting in the vehicle who was not restrained in a child safety restraint system. Multiple citations and written warnings were issued to the driver for the violations.

CPO Whitchurch was on patrol at Lake Michigan after sunset when he observed a subject fishing from a Kayak. CPO Whitchurch made contact with the subject and requested a fishing license and a water usage stamp from the subject. The subject provided a valid sport fishing license but did not have a valid water usage stamp. The subject did not possess a light capable of showing a white light visible for two miles on board. CPO Whitchurch educated the subject on watercraft laws and took enforcement action for the two violations.

CPO Whitchurch was on patrol at a Lake Michigan harbor when he observed a subject unlawfully snagging salmon. Once the subject saw CPO Whitchurch, he immediately began to walk in the opposite direction while cutting the snag hook off of his line. CPO Whitchurch got back to his patrol vehicle and drove around to the other side of the harbor where he was able to cut the subject off before he reached his vehicle. CPO Whitchurch cited the subject for unlawful snagging.

CPO Whitchurch was on patrol at a Cook County IDNR Property when he observed a vehicle drive straight past a stop signed intersection without even slowing down. A traffic stop was conducted on the vehicle and driver. CPO Whitchurch advised the driver as for the reason of the stop. CPO Whitchurch requested valid proof of insurance which the driver did not possess. The driver was cited for unlawful operation of a motor vehicle without valid proof of insurance. The driver will appear in court at a later date.

CPO Whitchurch was on patrol at a Cook County Lake when he observed two subjects fishing. When CPO Whitchurch requested fishing licenses from the two subjects, they informed him they bought licenses, but they did not think they had the fishing licenses on them. CPO Whitchurch checked the IDNR System to see if in fact they had fishing licenses. There was no record of fishing license purchases on file for either subject. After advising the subjects of this, one of them returned to their vehicle and found the fishing licenses inside. CPO Whitchurch examined the fishing licenses which were Indiana Fishing Licenses. CPO Whitchurch explained fishing licensing laws to both subjects and enforcement action was taken.

CPO Whitchurch was on patrol at a Lake Michigan Harbor when he observed two subjects unlawfully snagging salmon. CPO Whitchurch immediately recognized the two subjects because he issued them snagging violation citations previously. Both subjects were cited and issued written warnings for the snagging violations and license violations.

DuPAGE COUNTY
---------------

Nothing reported.

LAKE COUNTY
-------------

CPO Farber issued several citations at Waukegan Harbor for snagging in a posted restricted area.

CPO Farber received a TIP from a concerned fisherman regarding a subject taking an over limit of salmon. CPO Farber responded to Waukegan Harbor Government Pier to address the violations. He observed the subject snagging in a posted restricted area. The subject in question had three Chinook salmon in a garbage bag next to him on the pier. The daily limit for salmon is five per person. The subject was not in possession of a fishing license or salmon stamp. After questioning the subject he admitted to having more fish in his vehicle. Ten more Chinook salmon were recovered from the vehicle for a total of thirteen. The poacher was cited for an over limit of salmon, fishing without a license and snagging in a posted restricted area.

CPO Farber attended a club meeting for the Northwest Towns Sportsman's Club. The meeting was held at the American Legion Post 208 in Arlington Heights. CPO Farber discussed the enforcement/non enforcement duties of a Conservation Police Officer as well as the changes to the 2016-17 Hunting and Trapping Digest. Many stories were shared and a great time was had by all.